

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making purchases over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting said account number over said network from a consumer location to an on-line merchant location;

forwarding said account number over said network from said on-line merchant location to a third party contractor location;

initiating a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location;

transmitting said authorization number over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer location to said third party contractor location using said verification web browser\_window, bypassing said on-line merchant location; and

after said account number and said authorization number are received at said third party contractor location, verifying the validity of said account number and said authorization number.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said account number and said authorization number are transmitted over said network via encrypted connections.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said network is the Internet.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including the additional step of checking at said third party contractor location whether said account has sufficient funds to cover said purchase price.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 including the additional step of transmitting a signal from said third party contractor location to said on-line merchant location indicating whether said account number and said authorization number are valid.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 5 including the additional step of transmitting a signal from said third party contractor location to said on-line merchant location indicating whether there are sufficient funds in said account to cover said purchase price.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including the additional step of transmitting a signal from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location indicating whether said purchase has been authorized.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for making purchases over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said system comprising:

a first computer at a consumer location, said first computer being connected to said network;

a second computer at an on-line merchant location, said second computer being connected to said network; and

a third computer at a third party contractor location, said third computer being connected to said network;

wherein said account number is transmitted from said first computer to said second computer over said network;

wherein said account number is forwarded from said second computer to said third computer over said network;

wherein a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection is initiated between said consumer location and said third party contractor location by said second computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate said ~~verification-only~~ verification

connection between said consumer\_location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location;

wherein said authorization number is transmitted from said first computer to said third computer over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection using said verification web browser window, bypassing said second computer;

and wherein said third computer, after receiving said account number and said authorization number, verifies the validity of said account number and said authorization number.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein said account number and said authorization number are transmitted over said network via encrypted connections.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said network is the Internet.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said third computer checks whether said account has sufficient funds to cover said purchase price.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein said third computer notifies said second computer whether said account number and said authorization number are valid.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 13 wherein said third computer notifies said second computer whether there are sufficient funds in said account to cover said purchase price.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said second computer notifies said first computer whether said purchase is authorized.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of authorizing a purchase to be made over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said method comprising the steps:

receiving at a third party contractor location said account number transmitted over said network from an on-line merchant location;

initiating a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between a consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location;

receiving at said third party contractor location said authorization number transmitted over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer location using said

verification web browser window, bypassing said on-line merchant location; and

after receiving said account number and said authorization number at said third party contractor location, verifying the validity of said account number and said authorization number.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17 wherein said network is the Internet.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17 including the additional step of checking at said third party contractor location whether said account has sufficient funds to cover said purchase price.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17 including the additional step of transmitting a signal from said third party contractor location to said on-line merchant location indicating whether said account number and said authorization number are valid.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19 including the additional step of transmitting a signal from said third party contractor location to said on-line merchant location indicating whether there are sufficient funds in said account to cover said purchase price.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for authorizing a purchase to be made over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with

said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said system comprising:

a computer connected to said network;

said computer being configured to receive said account number transmitted over said network from an on-line merchant's computer, connect to a consumer's computer over a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection initiated by said on-line merchant's computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant's computer to said consumer's computer to initiate said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer's computer and said computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant's computer, receive said authorization number transmitted over said network from said consumer's computer using said verification web browser window bypassing said on-line merchant's computer, and, after receiving said account number and authorization number, verify the validity of said account number and said authorization number.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22 wherein said network is the Internet.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22 wherein said computer is configured to determine whether said account has sufficient funds to cover said purchase price.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22 wherein said computer is configured to notify said on-line merchant's computer whether said account number and said

authorization number are valid.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 24 wherein said computer is configured to notify said on-line merchant's computer whether there are sufficient funds in said account to cover said purchase price.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said account number is an ATM card number and said authorization number is a PIN associated with said ATM card number.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said consumer location is a consumer computer, said on-line merchant location is an on-line merchant computer, and said third party contractor location is a third party contractor computer.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein said account number is an ATM card number and said authorization number is a PIN associated with said ATM card number.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17 wherein said account number is an ATM card number and said authorization number is a PIN associated with said ATM card number.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17 wherein said consumer



location is a consumer computer, said on-line merchant location is an on-line merchant computer, and said third party contractor location is a third party contractor computer.

32. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22 wherein said account number is an ATM card number and said authorization number is a PIN associated with said ATM card number.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of making purchases over the Internet comprising the steps of:

transmitting an ATM card number which will be used to pay a purchase price over the Internet, from a web browser on a consumer's computer to an on-line merchant's web site;

forwarding said ATM card number over the Internet from said on-line merchant's web site to a verification computer;

initiating a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer's computer and said verification computer, said connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant's web site to the consumer's computer to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer's computer and said verification computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said merchant's web site;

receiving said PIN into said verification web browser window on said consumer's computer; and

transmitting said PIN using said verification web browser window, over said ~~verification~~  
~~only~~ verification connection from said consumer's computer to said verification computer;

determining using said verification computer whether said ATM card number and said  
PIN are valid; and

transmitting a message over the Internet from said verification computer to said on-line  
merchant's web site indicating whether said ATM card number and PIN are valid.

34. (Currently Amended) A system for making purchases over the Internet comprising:  
a consumer computer connected to the Internet having a web browser;  
an on-line merchant's web site connected to the Internet; and  
a verification computer connected to the Internet;  
said consumer computer being configured to transmit over the Internet, using said web  
browser, (1) an ATM card number which will be used to pay a purchase price to said on-line  
merchant's web site and (2) a PIN associated with said ATM card number to said verification  
computer in response to a query from said verification computer,

said on-line merchant's web site being configured to forward said ATM card number to  
said verification computer over the Internet and initiate a ~~verification-only~~ verification  
connection between said consumer's computer and said verification computer, said connection  
including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant's web site to  
the consumer's computer to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said  
consumer's computer and said verification computer, said verification connection being

independent of, and bypassing, said merchant's web site; and

said verification computer being configured to receive from said consumer's computer said PIN using said verification web browser window over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection, determine the validity of said ATM card number and said PIN, and transmit a message over the Internet to said on-line merchant's web site indicating whether said ATM card number and PIN are valid.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of authorizing a purchase to be made over the Internet comprising the steps:

receiving at a verification computer a consumer's ATM card number which will be used to pay a purchase price transmitted over the Internet from an on-line merchant's web site;

initiating a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between a consumer computer and said verification computer, said connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant's web site to said consumer computer to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer computer and said verification computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant's web site;

receiving at said verification computer said PIN transmitted using said verification web browser window over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer computer;

verifying the validity of said ATM card number and said PIN using said verification computer; and

transmitting a message over the Internet from said verification computer to said on-line merchant's web site indicating whether said ATM card number and PIN are valid.

36. (Currently Amended) A system for authorizing a purchase to be made over the Internet comprising:

a verification computer connected to the Internet;

said verification computer being configured to receive a consumer's ATM card number which will be used to pay a purchase price transmitted over the Internet from an on-line merchant's web site, connect to a consumer computer using a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer computer and said verification computer, said connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant's web site to said consumer computer to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer computer and said verification computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant's web site, receive said PIN transmitted using said verification web browser window over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer computer, verify the validity of said ATM card number and PIN, and transmit a message over the Internet to said on-line merchant's web site indicating whether said ATM card number and PIN are valid.

37. (Currently Amended) A system for making purchases over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said

account, said system comprising:

means for transmitting said account number over said network from a consumer location to an on-line merchant location;

means for forwarding said account number over said network from said on-line merchant location to a third party contractor location;

means for initiating a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location;

means for transmitting said authorization number over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer location to said third party contractor location using said verification web browser window, bypassing said on-line merchant location; and

means for verifying the validity of said account number and said authorization number after said account number and said authorization number are received at said third party contractor location.

38. (Currently Amended) A system for authorizing a purchase to be made over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said system comprising:

means for receiving at a third party contractor location said account number transmitted over said network from an on-line merchant location;

means for connecting to a consumer location using a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location;

means for receiving at said third party contractor location said authorization number transmitted over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer location using said verification web browser window, bypassing said on-line merchant location; and

means for verifying the validity of said account number and said authorization number after said account number and said authorization number are received at said third party contractor location.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the forwarding comprises forwarding to the verification computer a session identifier that includes an electronic address for the consumer's computer, which is forwarded with the ATM card number.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the on-line merchant's web site is configured to generate a session identifier that includes an electronic address for the consumer's computer and configured to forward the ATM account number with the session

identifier to the verification computer.

41. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

initiating a communication connection of said network between the consumer location and the third party contractor location, wherein the initiating is performed from the on-line merchant location.

42. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 9, wherein said second computer initiates a communication connection between the first computer and the third computer.

43. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of:

initiating a communication connection of said network between a consumer location and a third party contractor location, wherein the initiating is performed from an on-line merchant location.

44. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein said computer is configured to receive a network communication connection to the consumer computer that is initiated by the on-line merchant's computer.

45. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 33, further comprising the step of:

initiating a communication connection of said network between the consumer's computer and the verification computer, wherein the initiating is triggered from the on-line merchant's website.

46. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 34, wherein said on-line merchant's web site is also configured to initiate a verification-computer ~~only~~ Internet connection between the consumer computer and the verification computer.

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 35, further comprising the step of:

receiving at the verification computer an Internet communication connection to a merchant provided window on a consumer's computer.

48. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 36, wherein said verification computer is configured to be connected to a merchant-supplied Internet communication window on a consumer's computer which is private to the verification computer.

49. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 37, further comprising:  
means for initiating a communication connection of said network between the consumer location and the third party contractor location, wherein the initiating is performed from the on-line merchant location.



50. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 38, further comprising:  
means for initiating a communication connection of said network between a consumer location and the third party contractor location, wherein the initiating is performed from the on-line merchant location.

51. (Currently Amended) A method of making purchases over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving by an on-line merchant location said account number over said network from a consumer location;

forwarding said account number over said network from said on-line merchant location to a third party contractor location;

receiving an approval or disapproval of the withdrawal of said funds at said on-line merchant, the approval or disapproval being determined after said on-line merchant location initiates a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location, and receives said authorization

number, bypassing said on-line merchant location, over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer location using said verification web browser window, and verifies the validity of said account number and said authorization number; and

responding to the approval or disapproval by providing or not providing a good or service, respectively.

52. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 51, further comprising the step of:

initiating a communication connection of said network between the consumer location and the third party contractor location, wherein the initiating is performed from the on-line merchant location.

53. (Currently Amended) A system for authorizing a purchase to be made over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said system comprising:

a purchase facilitating computer connected to said network;

said purchase facilitating computer being configured to transmit a query for said account number over said network to a consumer's computer, to initiate a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between a consumer computer and an account authorization computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection including a verification web browser window provided from purchase facilitating computer to said consumer computer to initiate the ~~verification-only~~

verification connection between said consumer computer and said account authorization computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said purchase facilitating computer, to receive said account number over said network from the consumer's computer, to forward said account number over said network to said account authorization computer, to receive an approval or disapproval of the withdrawal of said funds from the account authorization computer, the approval or disapproval being determined after said account authorization receives said authorization number using said verification web browser window, bypassing said purchase facilitating computer, over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer's computer, and verifies the validity of said account number and said authorization number, and to respond to the approval or disapproval by providing or not providing a good or service, respectively.

54. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 53, further comprising the step of:

initiating a communication connection of said network between the consumer's computer and the account authorization computer, wherein the initiating is performed by the purchase facilitating computer.

55. (Currently Amended) A method of making purchases over the Internet comprising the steps:

receiving from a consumer's computer, running a web browser connected to an on-line merchant's website, an ATM card number which will be used to pay a purchase price over the Internet;

forwarding said ATM card number over the Internet from said on-line merchant's web site to a verification computer;

receiving an approval or disapproval of the purchase, the approval or disapproval being determined after i) said on-line merchant's web site initiates a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer computer and said verification computer, said connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant's web site to said consumer computer to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer computer and said verification computer, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said merchant's web site, ii) said on-line merchant's web site transmits a request for a PIN associated with said ATM card number using said verification web browser window, iii) said verification computer receives over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection a PIN input into said web browser on said consumer's computer, and iv) said verification computer determines whether said ATM card and said PIN are valid, and transmits an approval or disapproval over the Internet to an on-line merchant computer.

56. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 55, further comprising the step of:

initiating a communication connection of said network between the consumer's computer and the verification computer, wherein the initiating is performed by the on-line merchant computer.

57. (Currently Amended) A system for making purchases over a computer network using an account number that identifies a consumer's account from which funds will be

withdrawn to pay a purchase price and an authorization number associated with said account number which, when used with said account number, enables withdrawal of funds from said account, said system comprising:

means for receiving by an on-line merchant location said account number over said network from a consumer location;

means for forwarding said account number over said network from said on-line merchant location to a third party contractor location;

means for receiving an approval or disapproval of the withdrawal of said funds, the approval or disapproval being determined after i) said on-line merchant location initiates a ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said connection including a verification web browser window provided from said on-line merchant location to said consumer location to initiate the ~~verification-only~~ verification connection between said consumer location and said third party contractor location, said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection being independent of, and bypassing, said on-line merchant location, and ii) said third party contractor location receives said authorization number, bypassing said on-line merchant location, using said verification web browser window over said ~~verification-only~~ verification connection from said consumer location, and verifies the validity of said account number and said authorization number; and

means for responding to the approval or disapproval by not providing or providing a good or service, respectively, from said on-line merchant location.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 51, wherein the authorization number is a user-selected authorization number.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 53, wherein the authorization number is a user-selected authorization number.

62. (Canceled)

63. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 55 wherein the authorization number is a user-selected authorization number.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 57, wherein the authorization number is a user-selected authorization number.

66. (Canceled)

67. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the first and second data sets each also include data identifying said on-line merchant.

68. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the first and second data sets each also include the expiration date of the ATM card.

69. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the first and second data sets each also include data identifying the terminal of the on-line merchant.

70. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the first and second data sets each also include the purchase price.

71. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the first and second data sets each include a session identifier.

72. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said merchant's web site.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising synchronizing, at said third party contractor location, said account number with said authorization number to

determine a match of said account number with said authorization number.

74. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said account number is synchronized with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization number.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising synchronizing, at said third party contractor location, said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization number.

76. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein said computer is configured to synchronize said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization number.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 further comprising synchronizing, at said verification computer, said ATM card number with said PIN to determine a match of said ATM card number with said PIN.



78. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein said verification computer is configured to synchronize said ATM card number with said PIN to determine a match of said ATM card number with said PIN.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 further comprising synchronizing, at said verification computer, said ATM card number with said PIN to determine a match of said ATM card number with said PIN.

80. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36 wherein said verification computer is configured to synchronize said ATM card number with said PIN to determine a match of said ATM card number with said PIN.

81. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37 wherein said means for verifying synchronizes said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization number.

82. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein said means for verifying synchronizes said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said

account number with said authorization number.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 further comprising synchronizing, at said third party contractor location, said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization.

84. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 53 wherein said account authorization computer is configured to synchronize said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization number.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55 further comprising synchronizing, at said verification computer, said ATM card number with said PIN to determine a match of said ATM card number with said PIN.

86. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 57 means for synchronizing, at said third party contractor location, said account number with said authorization number to determine a match of said account number with said authorization.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.

88. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.

90. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant's computer.

91. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant's web site.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant's web site.

93. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant's web site.

94. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.

95. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.

96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.

97. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said purchase facilitating computer.

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant's web site.

99. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 57 wherein the verification web browser window is launched by a hyperlink provided from said on-line merchant location.